



# Deep Impact Questions



Created for the Deep Impact Mission, A NASA Discovery Mission  
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Student - Inquiry

These are the questions that Elicit #1 "What are your ideas about comets?" has brought. You can use these questions for discussion or as an evaluation tool with your students.

- Where do comets come from?
- What are comets made of?
- How do they get from their origin to near Earth?
- What is inside them?
- Where are they now?
- How do you tell the difference between a comet and a shooting star?
- How many are there?
- What is the tail made of?
- Do they all travel the same direction?
- What makes them fly?
- Are they hot and burning?
- Is the tail dangerous?
- What is the life span for a comet?
- Is a comet a ball of gas?
- Is it ice?
- Is it a rock?
- Is it a ball of fire?
- Is it like a shooting star?
- What activates comets?
- Why was Halley's Comet so popular?
- Can they be re-routed?
- How close do they come to Earth?
- Do they have a head and a tail?
- Are they from deep in outer space?
- Are they from the black hole?
- What is "periodic"?
- What keeps them going? Do they have something like a jetpack?
- Why are new ones discovered?
- How do you distinguish one comet from another?

For additional facts about comets, look in [Science](#) and [Mission Results](#).